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Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Mehmet **Samsar** (Turkey)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled:

"Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly:

"(a) United Nations Disarmament Information Programme;

"(b) United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services;

"(c) Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa;

"(d) Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons;

"(e) United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament;

"(f) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa;

"(g) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean;

"(h) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific",

was included in the provisional agenda of the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolutions 55/34 A and C of 20 November 2000 and 56/25 A, C, D, E and F of 29 November 2001.

2. At its 19th plenary meeting, on 20 September 2002, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

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3. At its 1st meeting, on 27 September 2002, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely items 57, 58 and 60 to 73, which was held at the 2nd to 10th meetings, from 30 September to 4 October and on 7, 9 and 10 October (see A/C.1/57/PV.2-10). Thematic discussions on the items were held, and draft resolutions were introduced and considered, at the 11th to 16th meetings, from 14 to 18 October (see A/C.1/57/PV.11-16). Action on all draft resolutions was taken at the 17th to 23rd meetings, from 21 to 23 and on 25, 28 and 29 October (see A/C.1/57/PV.17-23).

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (A/57/116);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa (A/57/161);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa (A/57/162);

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services (A/57/168);

(e) Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme (A/57/223 and Add.1);

(f) Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific (A/57/260);

(g) Letter dated 16 May 2002 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/57/79-S/2002/551);

(h) Letter dated 22 August 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Nepal to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/57/342).

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.11

5. At the 16th meeting, on 18 October, the representative of South Africa, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, introduced a draft resolution entitled "United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament" (A/C.1/57/L.11).

6. The Secretary drew the attention of the Committee to the statement of the programme budget implications of the draft resolution, submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly (A/C.1/57/L.55).

7. At its 21st meeting, on 25 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.11 without a vote (see para. 25, draft resolution A).

B. Draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.15

8. At the 14th meeting, on 17 October, the representative of the Central African Republic, on behalf of Angola, Burundi, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Chad, the Congo, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon and Rwanda, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa" (A/C.1/57/L.15).

9. The Secretary of the Committee made a statement on the conference-servicing implications of the draft resolution.

10. At its 22nd meeting, on 28 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.15 without a vote (see para. 25, draft resolution B).

C. Draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.16

11. At the 15th meeting, on 17 October, the representative of Trinidad and Tobago, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States, introduced a draft resolution entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean" (A/C.1/57/L.16).

12. The Secretary drew the attention of the Committee to the statement of the programme budget implications of the draft resolution, submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly (A/C.1/57/L.56).

13. At its 21st meeting, on 25 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.16 without a vote (see para. 25, draft resolution C).

D. Draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.20

14. At the 12th meeting, on 15 October, the representative of Mexico, on behalf of Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mexico, Myanmar, New Zealand, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines and South Africa, introduced a draft resolution entitled "United Nations Disarmament Information Programme" (A/C.1/57/L.20). Subsequently, Barbados, Chile and Liberia joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

15. At its 19th meeting, on 23 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.20 without a vote (see para. 25, draft resolution D).

E. Draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.29

16. At the 14th meeting, on 17 October, the representative of Egypt, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States, introduced a draft resolution entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa" (A/C.1/57/L.29).

17. At its 19th meeting, on 23 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.29 without a vote (see para. 25, draft resolution E).

F. Draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.35

18. At the 18th meeting, on 17 October, the representative of Nepal, on behalf of Australia, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kazakhstan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Thailand, Tonga and Viet Nam, introduced a draft resolution entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific" (A/C.1/57/L.35). Subsequently, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Fiji, Kyrgyzstan, Maldives, Micronesia (Federated States of), New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

19. The Secretary drew the attention of the Committee to the statement of the programme budget implications of the draft resolution, submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly (A/C.1/57/L.57).

20. At its 21st meeting, on 25 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.35 without a vote (see para. 25, draft resolution F).

G. Draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.38

21. At the 11th meeting, on 14 October, the representative of Nigeria, on behalf of Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, China, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Ethiopia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, India, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nicaragua, the Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Romania, the Russian Federation, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Sweden, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, the United Republic of Tanzania, the United States of America, Venezuela, Zambia and Zimbabwe, introduced a draft resolution entitled "United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services" (A/C.1/57/L.38). Subsequently, Bangladesh, Chile, Guinea, Honduras, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Poland, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Thailand, Uganda and Yemen joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

22. At its 19th meeting, on 23 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.38 without a vote (see para. 25, draft resolution G).

H. Draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.51

23. At the 11th meeting, on 14 October, the representative of India, on behalf of Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Colombia, the Congo, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Fiji, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Jordan, Kenya, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, the Marshall Islands,

Mauritius, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, the Sudan, Tuvalu, Viet Nam and Zambia, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons" (A/C.1/57/L.51). Subsequently, Bangladesh, Cambodia, El Salvador, Malaysia, Nauru, Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

24. At its 17th meeting, on 21 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.51 by a recorded vote of 98 to 45, with 9 abstentions (see para. 25, draft resolution H). The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia.

Against:

Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Yugoslavia.

Abstaining:

Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Ukraine.

III. Recommendations of the First Committee

25. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly

Draft resolution A
United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/25 C of 29 November 2001 regarding the maintenance and revitalization of the three United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament,

Recalling also the reports of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa,[1] the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific[2] and the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean,[3]

Reaffirming its decision, taken in 1982 at its twelfth special session, to establish the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme, the purpose of which is to inform, educate and generate public understanding and support for the objectives of the United Nations in the field of arms control and disarmament,[4]

Bearing in mind its resolutions 40/151 G of 16 December 1985, 41/60 J of 3 December 1986, 42/39 D of 30 November 1987 and 44/117 F of 15 December 1989 on the regional centres for peace and disarmament in Nepal, Peru and Togo,

Recognizing that the changes that have taken place in the world have created new opportunities as well as posed new challenges for the pursuit of disarmament and, in this regard, bearing in mind that the regional centres for peace and disarmament can contribute substantially to understanding and cooperation among States in each particular region in the areas of peace, disarmament and development,

Noting that in paragraph 146 of the Final Document of the Twelfth Conference of Heads of State or Government of the Non-Aligned Countries, held at Durban, South Africa, from 29 August to 3 September 1998, the heads of State or Government welcomed the decision adopted by the General Assembly on maintaining and revitalizing the three regional centres for peace and disarmament in Nepal, Peru and Togo,[5]

1. *Reiterates* the importance of the United Nations activities at the regional level to increase the stability and security of its Member States, which could be promoted in a substantive manner by the maintenance and revitalization of the three regional centres for peace and disarmament;

2. *Reaffirms* that, in order to achieve positive results, it is useful for the three regional centres to carry out dissemination and educational programmes that promote regional peace and security aimed at changing basic attitudes with respect

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[1] A/57/162.

[2] A/57/260.

[3] A/57/116.

[4] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Plenary Meetings*, 1st meeting, paras. 110 and 111.

[5] A/53/667-S/1998/1071, annex I.

to peace and security and disarmament so as to support the achievement of the principles and purposes of the United Nations;

3. *Appeals* to Member States in each region and those that are able to do so, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions to the regional centres in their respective regions to strengthen their activities and initiatives;

4. *Emphasizes* the importance of the activities of the regional branch of the Department for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide all necessary support, within existing resources, to the regional centres in carrying out their programmes of activities;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament".

Draft resolution B
Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the purposes and principles of the United Nations and its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolutions 43/78 H and 43/85 of 7 December 1988, 44/21 of 15 November 1989, 45/58 M of 4 December 1990, 46/37 B of 6 December 1991, 47/53 F of 15 December 1992, 48/76 A of 16 December 1993, 49/76 C of 15 December 1994, 50/71 B of 12 December 1995, 51/46 C of 10 December 1996, 52/39 B of 9 December 1997, 53/78 A of 4 December 1998, 54/55 A of 1 December 1999, 55/34 B of 20 November 2000 and 56/25 A of 29 November 2001,

Considering the importance and effectiveness of confidence-building measures taken at the initiative and with the participation of all States concerned and taking into account the specific characteristics of each region, since such measures can contribute to regional stability and to international peace and security,

Convinced that the resources released by disarmament, including regional disarmament, can be devoted to economic and social development and to the protection of the environment for the benefit of all peoples, in particular those of the developing countries,

Recalling the guidelines for general and complete disarmament adopted at its tenth special session, the first special session devoted to disarmament,

Convinced that development can be achieved only in a climate of peace, security and mutual confidence both within and among States,

Bearing in mind the establishment by the Secretary-General on 28 May 1992 of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in

Central Africa, the purpose of which is to encourage arms limitation, disarmament, non-proliferation and development in the subregion,

Recalling the Brazzaville Declaration on Cooperation for Peace and Security in Central Africa,[6] the Bata Declaration for the Promotion of Lasting Democracy, Peace and Development in Central Africa,[7] and the Yaoundé Declaration on Peace, Security and Stability in Central Africa,[8]

Bearing in mind resolutions 1196 (1998) and 1197 (1998), adopted by the Security Council on 16 and 18 September 1998 respectively, following its consideration of the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,[9]

Emphasizing the need to strengthen the capacity for conflict prevention and peacekeeping in Africa,

Recalling the decision of the fourth ministerial meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee in favour of establishing, under the auspices of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, a subregional centre for human rights and democracy in Central Africa at Yaoundé,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on regional confidence-building measures, which deals with the activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa in the period since the adoption by the General Assembly of resolution 56/25 A;[10]

2. *Reaffirms its support* for efforts aimed at promoting confidence-building measures at regional and subregional levels in order to ease tensions and conflicts in Central Africa and to further peace, stability and sustainable development in the subregion;

3. *Also reaffirms its support* for the programme of work of the Standing Advisory Committee adopted at the organizational meeting of the Committee, held at Yaoundé from 27 to 31 July 1992;

4. *Notes with satisfaction* the progress made by the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee in implementing the programme of activities for the period 2001-2002, in particular by:

(a) Holding a Subregional Conference on the Protection of Women and Children in Armed Conflict in Central Africa at Kinshasa from 14 to 16 November 2001;

(b) Holding a meeting of Chiefs of Staff of the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee at Libreville from 18 to 20 March 2002;

(c) Holding the seventeenth ministerial meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee at Kinshasa from 22 to 26 April 2002;

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[6] A/50/474, annex I.

[7] A/53/258-S/1998/763, annex II, appendix I.

[8] A/53/868-S/1999/303, annex II.

[9] A/52/871-S/1998/318.

[10] A/57/161.

(d) Holding the subregional consultation on the theme "Parity and development: participation of the Central African woman" at Douala from 28 to 30 May 2002;

(e) Holding the eighteenth ministerial meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee at Bangui from 26 to 30 August 2002;

5. *Emphasizes* the importance of providing the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee with the essential support they need to carry out the full programme of activities which they adopted at their ministerial meetings;

6. *Welcomes* the creation of a mechanism for the promotion, maintenance and consolidation of peace and security in Central Africa, to be known as the Council for Peace and Security in Central Africa, by the Conference of Heads of State and Government of the member countries of the Economic Community of Central African States, held at Yaoundé on 25 February 1999, and requests the Secretary-General to give his full support to the effective realization of that important mechanism;

7. *Emphasizes* the need to make the early-warning mechanism in Central Africa operational so that it will serve, on the one hand, as an instrument for analysing and monitoring political situations in the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee with a view to preventing the outbreak of future armed conflicts and, on the other hand, as a technical body through which the member States will carry out the programme of work of the Committee, adopted at its organizational meeting held at Yaoundé in 1992, and requests the Secretary-General to provide it with the assistance necessary for it to function properly;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to provide their full assistance for the proper functioning of the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General, pursuant to Security Council resolution 1197 (1998), to provide the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee with the necessary support for the implementation and smooth functioning of the Council for Peace and Security in Central Africa and the early-warning mechanism;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to support the establishment of a network of parliamentarians with a view to the creation of a subregional parliament in Central Africa;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to continue to provide increased assistance to the countries of Central Africa for coping with the problems of refugees and displaced persons in their territories;

12. *Thanks* the Secretary-General for having established the Trust Fund for the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa;

13. *Appeals* to Member States and to governmental and non-governmental organizations to make additional voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund for the implementation of the programme of work of the Standing Advisory Committee;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee with assistance to ensure that they are able to carry on their efforts;

15. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa".

Draft resolution C
United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 41/60 J of 3 December 1986, 42/39 K of 30 November 1987 and 43/76 H of 7 December 1988 on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, with headquarters in Lima,

Recalling also its resolutions 46/37 F of 9 December 1991, 48/76 E of 16 December 1993, 49/76 D of 15 December 1994, 50/71 C of 12 December 1995, 52/220 of 22 December 1997, 53/78 F of 4 December 1998, 54/55 F of 1 December 1999, 55/34 E of 20 November 2000 and 56/25 E of 29 November 2001,

Underlining the revitalization of the Regional Centre, the efforts made by the Government of Peru and other countries to that end, as well as the important work done by the Director of the Centre,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General,[11] which concludes that the Regional Centre has continued to act as an instrument for the implementation of regional initiatives and intensified its contribution to the coordination of United Nations efforts towards peace and security,

Noting that security and disarmament issues have always been recognized as significant topics in Latin America and the Caribbean, the first inhabited region in the world to be declared a nuclear-weapon-free zone,

Welcoming the decision of the Government of Cuba to ratify the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco),[12]

Welcoming also the creation of the South American Zone of Peace and Cooperation, declared by the Presidents and Heads of State of South America, in Guayaquil, Ecuador, on 27 July 2002,[13]

Bearing in mind the important role that the Regional Centre can play in promoting confidence-building measures, arms control and limitation, disarmament and development at the regional level,

[11] A/57/116.

[12] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068.

[13] See A/57/232, annex.

Also bearing in mind the importance of information, research, education and training for peace, disarmament and development in order to achieve understanding and cooperation among States,

Recognizing the need to provide the three United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament with sufficient financial resources and cooperation for the planning and implementation of their programmes of activities,

1. *Reiterates its strong support* for the role of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean in the promotion of United Nations activities at the regional level to strengthen peace, stability, security and development among its member States;

2. *Expresses its satisfaction and congratulates* the Regional Centre for the expansion of the vast range of activities carried out last year in the field of peace, disarmament and development, and requests the Regional Centre to take into account the proposals to be submitted by the countries of the region in promoting confidence-building measures, arms control and limitation, transparency, disarmament and development at the regional level;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* for the political support and financial contributions to the Regional Centre, which are essential for its continued operation;

4. *Invites* all States of the region to continue to take part in the activities of the Regional Centre, proposing items for inclusion in its agenda, making greater and better use of the Centre's potential to meet the current challenges facing the international community and with a view to fulfilling the aims of the Charter of the United Nations in the fields of peace, disarmament and development;

5. *Recognizes* that the Regional Centre has an important role in the promotion and development of regional initiatives agreed upon by the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean in the field of weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, conventional arms, including small arms and light weapons, as well as the relationship between disarmament and development;

6. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on the relationship between disarmament and development,[14] and supports the role that the Regional Centre plays in promoting those issues in the region in pursuit of its mandate to promote economic and social development related to peace and disarmament;

7. *Appeals* to Member States, in particular the States of the Latin American and Caribbean region, and to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and to foundations, to make and increase voluntary contributions to strengthen the Regional Centre, its programme of activities and the implementation thereof;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Regional Centre with all necessary support, within existing resources, so that it may carry out its programme of activities in accordance with its mandate;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

[14] A/57/167 and Add.1.

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean".

Draft resolution D
United Nations Disarmament Information Programme

The General Assembly,

Recalling its decision taken in 1982 at its twelfth special session, the second special session devoted to disarmament, by which the World Disarmament Campaign was launched,[15]

Bearing in mind its resolution 47/53 D of 9 December 1992, in which it decided, inter alia, that the World Disarmament Campaign should be known thereafter as the "United Nations Disarmament Information Programme" and the World Disarmament Campaign Voluntary Trust Fund as the "Voluntary Trust Fund for the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme",

Recalling its resolutions 51/46 A of 10 December 1996, 53/78 E of 4 December 1998 and 55/34 A of 20 November 2000,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme,[16]

1. *Takes note* with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme;[16]

2. *Commends* the Secretary-General for his efforts to make effective use of the limited resources available to him in disseminating as widely as possible, including by electronic means, information on arms limitation and disarmament to Governments, the media, non-governmental organizations, educational communities and research institutes, and in carrying out a seminar and conference programme;

3. *Stresses* the importance of the Programme, as a significant instrument in enabling all Member States to participate fully in the deliberations and negotiations on disarmament in the various United Nations bodies, and in assisting them in complying with treaties, as required, and in contributing to agreed mechanisms for transparency;

4. *Notes with appreciation* the cooperation of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat and its information centres in pursuit of the objectives of the Programme;

5. *Recommends* that the Programme focus its efforts:

(a) To inform, to educate and to generate public understanding of the importance of multilateral action and support for it, including action by the United Nations and the Conference on Disarmament, in the field of arms limitation and disarmament, in a factual, balanced and objective manner, and, inter alia, to continue to publish in all official languages *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook* and

[15] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Plenary Meetings*, 1st meeting, paras. 110 and 111.

[16] A/57/223 and Add.1.

to report on the results of the survey of users, as well as to continue to produce ad hoc publications in print and electronic form;

(b) To continue to maintain the Disarmament Internet web site, including frequent updates of the databases such as the *Status of Multilateral Arms Regulation and Disarmament Agreements* and the disarmament-related *Resolutions and Decisions of the General Assembly*, as a part of the United Nations web site and to produce versions of the site in as many official languages as feasible;

(c) To continue to intensify United Nations interaction with the public, principally non-governmental organizations and research institutes, to help further an informed debate on topical issues of arms limitation, disarmament and security;

(d) To continue to organize discussions on topics of interest in the field of arms limitation and disarmament with a view to broadening understanding and facilitating an exchange of views and information among Member States and civil society;

6. *Invites* all Member States to make contributions to the Voluntary Trust Fund for the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme with a view to sustaining a strong outreach programme;

7. *Takes note* of the recommendations made in the study on disarmament and non-proliferation education submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session[17] and commends to the attention of the Secretary-General for implementation those recommendations relating to the United Nations, without cost to the regular budget of the Organization, and invites him to continue his support and cooperation with universities, other academic institutions and non-governmental organizations active in the education field in widening the worldwide availability of disarmament and non-proliferation education;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session a report covering both the implementation of the activities of the Programme by the United Nations system during the previous two years and the activities of the Programme contemplated by the system for the following two years;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the item entitled "United Nations Disarmament Information Programme".

Draft resolution E
United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa

The General Assembly,

Mindful of the provisions of Article 11, paragraph 1, of the Charter of the United Nations stipulating that a function of the General Assembly is to consider the general principles of cooperation in the maintenance of international peace and security, including the principles governing disarmament and arms limitation,

Recalling its resolutions 40/151 G of 16 December 1985, 41/60 D of 3 December 1986, 42/39 J of 30 November 1987 and 43/76 D of 7 December 1988

[17] See A/57/124, sect. VIII.

on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, and its resolutions 46/36 F of 6 December 1991 and 47/52 G of 9 December 1992 on regional disarmament, including confidence-building measures,

Recalling also its resolutions 48/76 E of 16 December 1993, 49/76 D of 15 December 1994, 50/71 C of 12 December 1995, 51/46 E of 10 December 1996, 52/220 of 22 December 1997, 53/78 C of 4 December 1998, 54/55 B of 1 December 1999, 55/34 D of 20 November 2000 and 56/25 D of 29 November 2001,

Aware of the widespread support for the revitalization of the Regional Centre and the important role that the Centre can play in the present context in promoting confidence-building and arms-limitation measures at the regional level, thereby promoting progress in the area of sustainable development,

Taking into account the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,[18]

Taking into account also the note by the Secretary-General containing the recommendations made by the Office of Internal Oversight Services of the Secretariat related to the programme management and administrative practices in the Department for Disarmament Affairs, in particular those recommendations concerning the United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament in Africa, in Latin America and the Caribbean, and in Asia and the Pacific,[19]

Bearing in mind the efforts undertaken in the framework of the revitalization of the activities of the Regional Centre for the mobilization of the resources necessary for its operational costs,

Taking into account the need to establish close cooperation between the Regional Centre and the Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution of the African Union, in conformity with the decision adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-fifth ordinary session, held at Algiers from 12 to 14 July 1999,[20]

Welcoming the adoption by the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, held in New York from 9 to 20 July 2001, of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,[21] and emphasizing the need for the appropriate implementation of the Programme of Action by all States,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[22] and commends the activities which the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa is continuing to carry out, in particular in support of the efforts made by the African States in the areas of peace and security;

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[18] A/52/871-S/1998/318.

[19] A/56/817.

[20] A/54/424, annex II, decision AHG/Dec.138 (XXXV).

[21] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9-20 July 2001* (A/CONF.192/15), para. 24.

[22] A/57/162.

2. *Reaffirms its strong support* for the revitalization of the Regional Centre, and emphasizes the need to provide it with the necessary resources to enable it to strengthen its activities and carry out its programmes;

3. *Appeals once again* to all States, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and the foundations, to make voluntary contributions in order to strengthen the programmes and activities of the Regional Centre and facilitate their implementation;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the necessary support to the Regional Centre for better achievements and results;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to facilitate the establishment of close cooperation between the Regional Centre and the African Union, in particular in the area of peace, security and development, and to continue to assist the Director of the Regional Centre in his efforts to stabilize the financial situation of the Centre and revitalize its activities;

6. *Appeals in particular* to the Regional Centre, in cooperation with the African Union, regional and subregional organizations and the African States, to take steps to promote the consistent implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects;[21]

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa".

Draft resolution F
United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 42/39 D of 30 November 1987 and 44/117 F of 15 December 1989, by which it established the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and renamed it the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific, with headquarters in Kathmandu and with the mandate of providing, on request, substantive support for the initiatives and other activities mutually agreed upon by the Member States of the Asia-Pacific region for the implementation of measures for peace and disarmament, through appropriate utilization of available resources,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General,[23] in which he expresses his belief that the mandate of the Regional Centre remains valid and that the Centre could be a useful instrument for fostering a climate of cooperation for peace and disarmament in the region,

[21] A/57/260.

Noting that trends in the post-cold-war era have emphasized the function of the Regional Centre in assisting Member States as they deal with new security concerns and disarmament issues emerging in the region,

Commending the useful activities carried out by the Regional Centre in encouraging regional and subregional dialogue for the enhancement of openness, transparency and confidence-building, as well as the promotion of disarmament and security through the organization of regional meetings, which has come to be widely known within the Asia-Pacific region as the "Kathmandu Process",

Expressing its appreciation to the Regional Centre for its organization of the eighth Kanazawa symposium on north-east Asia, on the theme "Security outlook in north-east Asia and new agenda for the Kanazawa process", held at Kanazawa, Japan, from 4 to 6 June 2002, and the Fifth United Nations Conference on Disarmament Issues, on "The challenge of terrorism for international security and disarmament: global and regional impact", held at Kyoto, Japan, from 7 to 9 August 2002,[24]

Welcoming the idea of the possible creation of an educational and training programme for peace and disarmament in Asia and the Pacific for young people with different backgrounds, to be financed from voluntary contributions,

Noting the important role of the Regional Centre in assisting region-specific initiatives of Member States, including its assistance in the work related to the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia, as well as to Mongolia's international security and nuclear-weapon-free status, including the organization of a United Nations-sponsored non-governmental expert group meeting on the theme "Ways and means of strengthening Mongolia's international security and nuclear-weapon-free status", held at Sapporo, Japan, on 5 and 6 September 2001,

Appreciating highly the overall support that Nepal has extended as the host nation of the headquarters of the Regional Centre,

1. *Reaffirms* its strong support for the forthcoming operation and further strengthening of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific;

2. *Underlines* the importance of the Kathmandu process as a powerful vehicle for the development of the practice of region-wide security and disarmament dialogue;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* for the continuing political support and voluntary financial contributions to the Regional Centre, which are essential for its continued operation;

4. *Appeals* to Member States, in particular those within the Asia-Pacific region, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions, the only resources of the Regional Centre, to strengthen the programme of activities of the Centre and the implementation thereof;

[24] Ibid., paras. 11 and 12.

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, taking note of paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 49/76 D of 15 December 1994, to provide the Regional Centre with the necessary support, within existing resources, in carrying out its programme of activities;

6. *Urges* the Secretary-General to ensure the physical operation of the Regional Centre from Kathmandu within six months of the date of signature of the host country agreement and to enable the Centre to function effectively;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific".

Draft resolution G
United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services programme,[25]

Recalling its decision, contained in paragraph 108 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[26] the first special session devoted to disarmament, to establish a programme of fellowships on disarmament, as well as its decisions contained in annex IV to the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly,[27] the second special session devoted to disarmament, in which it decided, inter alia, to continue the programme,

Noting that the programme continues to contribute significantly to developing greater awareness of the importance and benefits of disarmament and better understanding of the concerns of the international community in the field of disarmament and security, as well as to enhancing the knowledge and skills of fellows, allowing them to participate more effectively in efforts in the field of disarmament at all levels,

Noting with satisfaction that the programme has trained a large number of officials from Member States throughout its twenty-four years of existence, many of whom hold positions of responsibility in the field of disarmament within their own Governments,

Recognizing the need for Member States to take into account gender equality when nominating candidates to the programme,

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[25] A/57/168.

[26] Resolution S-10/2.

[27] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Annexes*, agenda items 9-13, document A/S-12/32.

Recalling all the annual resolutions on the matter since the thirty-seventh session of the General Assembly, in 1982, including resolution 50/71 A of 12 December 1995,

Believing that the forms of assistance available to Member States, in particular to developing countries, under the programme will enhance the capabilities of their officials to follow ongoing deliberations and negotiations on disarmament, both bilateral and multilateral,

1. *Reaffirms* its decisions contained in annex IV to the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly[27] and the report of the Secretary-General[28] approved by the Assembly in its resolution 33/71 E of 14 December 1978;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Government of Germany for hosting the participants of the programme since 1980 and to the Government of Japan on the occasion of its twentieth annual study visit for the fellows, which includes events in Nagasaki and Hiroshima, and to the Government of the United States of America for having organized in 2001 a specific study programme in the field of disarmament, thereby contributing to the fulfilment of the overall objectives of the programme;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization and the Monterey Institute of International Studies for having organized specific study programmes in the field of disarmament in their respective areas of competence, thereby contributing to the objectives of the programme;

4. *Commends* the Secretary-General for the diligence with which the programme has continued to be carried out;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to implement annually the Geneva-based programme within existing resources and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the item entitled "United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services".

Draft resolution H
Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons

The General Assembly,

Convinced that the use of nuclear weapons poses the most serious threat to the survival of mankind,

Bearing in mind the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice of 8 July 1996 on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*,[29]

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[28] A/33/305.

[29] A/51/218, annex; see also *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons, Advisory Opinion, I.C.J. Reports 1996*, p. 226.

Convinced that a multilateral, universal and binding agreement prohibiting the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons would contribute to the elimination of the nuclear threat and to the climate for negotiations leading to the ultimate elimination of nuclear weapons, thereby strengthening international peace and security,

Conscious that some steps taken by the Russian Federation and the United States of America towards a reduction of their nuclear weapons and the improvement in the international climate can contribute towards the goal of the complete elimination of nuclear weapons,

Recalling that, in paragraph 58 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[30] it is stated that all States should actively participate in efforts to bring about conditions in international relations among States in which a code of peaceful conduct of nations in international affairs could be agreed upon and that would preclude the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Reaffirming that any use of nuclear weapons would be a violation of the Charter of the United Nations and a crime against humanity, as declared in its resolutions 1653 (XVI) of 24 November 1961, 33/71 B of 14 December 1978, 34/83 G of 11 December 1979, 35/152 D of 12 December 1980 and 36/92 I of 9 December 1981,

Determined to achieve an international convention prohibiting the development, production, stockpiling and use of nuclear weapons, leading to their ultimate destruction,

Stressing that an international convention on the prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons would be an important step in a phased programme towards the complete elimination of nuclear weapons, with a specified framework of time,

Noting with regret that the Conference on Disarmament, during its 2002 session, was unable to undertake negotiations on this subject as called for in General Assembly resolution 56/25 B of 29 November 2001,

1. *Reiterates its request* to the Conference on Disarmament to commence negotiations in order to reach agreement on an international convention prohibiting the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons under any circumstances;

2. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to report to the General Assembly on the results of those negotiations.

[30] Resolution S-10/2.